

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Frederic DE MOLIERE ET AL 1 PCT
SERIAL NO.: 10/567,270 EXAMINER: Charles A. FOX
FILED: MARCH 23, 2006 GROUP: 3652
TITLE: TRANSPORT DEVICE FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE OR A PARTIALLY
ASSEMBLED MOTOR VEHICLE DURING THE PRODUCTION
PROCESS

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

Supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed February 6, 2006 and the Supplemental IDS filed on March 23, 2006, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Patent Examiner the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

International Patent Application Publication No. WO 01/71882 and Korean laid open publication No. 10-2003-0011278 are believed to be equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 7,084,527.

Korean laid open publication No. 10-2003-0011278 was cited by the South Korean Patent Office in a corresponding application. This reference does not relate to a transport device for partly assembled cars during the production process. It is prior art for these production processes to make any testing procedures which are connected with the consumption of electrical energy after the battery is mounted in the car. Thereby, the electrical energy is provided by the battery of the car and there is in general no need to make any change in this normal procedure.

This situation is the point where the invention of Applicants' patent application starts. In Applicants' claimed device, although the battery may be mounted in the car, the electrical energy

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is given from outside via the transport device of the motor vehicle or partially assembled motor vehicles in the production procedure. Thereby, there is no consumption of electrical energy of the battery. This leads to the advantage that the battery shows the full capacity at the time when the car is handed over to the customer.

From Applicants' point of view, it was not obvious to change the procedure with the consumption of electrical energy of the battery of the car in the way recited in Applicants' claims. The procedure up to the time of Applicants' invention worked with success. Therefore, a person with ordinary skill in the art had no reason to change this procedure. It might be that there exists other production processes for products which do not have a power supply for electrical energy by its own. If there is described that the electrical energy for making testing procedures is transferred via transport devices in the production process, it is nevertheless not obvious to transfer this knowledge to the situation in the production process of cars. As described above, there was another solution which worked efficiently and therefore it was not obvious to change this situation.

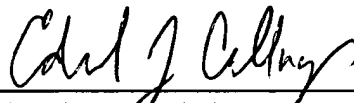
International Patent Application Publication No. WO 0078594 was cited by the Applicants in the IDS filed in this application on February 6, 2006, and the Examiner has indicated his consideration of this reference by initialing the Form PTO-1449 listing WO 0078594. Applicants provide the following additional information regarding WO 0078594, which reference was cited by the Indian Patent Office in a corresponding application:

It is believed that the main difference between Applicants' transport device and the cited device according to WO 0078594, is that the on-board electrical system of the motor vehicle (or partially assembled motor vehicle) set forth in Applicants' claims is supplied with power via the transport device. In particular, the support of the power is handled via the terminal (3) and the power of that terminal (3) is supplied from the power supply to the transport device. WO 0078594 describes a transport device which is movable between different defined points along a distance. A cabin is provided to protect the goods which are being transported with the transport device from the environment. The aim of WO 0078594 is to eliminate the need for protection foils of the goods to protect the goods from the environment. At least at one of these defined

points along the distance, the transport device according to WO 0078594 can be connected with a power supply. Thereby, it is possible to have electrical energy to open, for example, the doors of the cabin to unload the goods from the transport device. The subject matter of WO 0078594 is not concerned in any way with the problem of the energy situation of a motor vehicle or a partially assembled motor vehicle as the goods, which are transported with the transport device.

Since this Second IDS is being filed after a first Office Action on the merits, the official fee of \$180.00 is enclosed to cover the fee for filing. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 03-2468 for any additional fees or credit any overpayment in connection with this IDS. It is respectfully requested that the foregoing IDS be incorporated into the official file of the present patent application.

Respectfully submitted,
Frederic DE MOLIERE ET AL

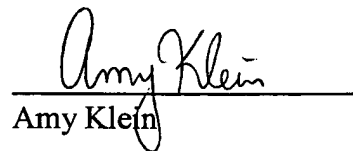


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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449; three (3) documents and check for \$180.00

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 7, 2009.



Amy Klein